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MASSES FOR MUSSOLINI
~~NO FOLDER, NO DATA, NO DATE~~
(1943 - 1947?)

AC/14354/PS

43

DECLASSIFIED

on 80757

by [signature] NARS, DJS 11/7/89

MASSES FOR MUSSOLINI.

MASSER FOR MUSSOLINI.

10000 / 43 / 1078

THIS FOLDER
CONTAINS PAPERS

FROM

TO

CATALOGUE.

MR Y 46

ALLIED COMMISSION
PUBLIC SAFETY LIAISON OFFICE
R. A. A. C. QUESTURA - VIA SAN VITALE
TEL 478895

Ref. PSL1 *P/2* Rome, *23rd May* 1946

To: *Col. BVE*
PS. S/C ACHQ

FOR YOUR

- Information *please*
- Perusal & Return, please
- Necessary action, please
- Investigation & Report, please
- Onward transmission

REMARKS

3871

- ADPS - *seen*
- Police - *OK*
- 2 - *not*

R. T. Millhouse
FOR LT. COL.
R. T. MILLHOUSE, L. O.

TRANSLATION

Report N. 058716 dated 9th May 1946 from Questore of Rome.

To : Procure of Rome.

Subject : Services in Rome Churches fro Benito Mussolini.

On 23th April 1946 at 12,00 hrs. the usual Mass started in S. Carlo al Corso Church, at the presence of about 400 believers. Such a Mass was bestowed upon Benito Mussolini, as the Deputy Parson of the Church stated, and it had been booked by a middle aged decently dressed woman three days before. The officiating priest knew only the deceased's name; that is Benito, while only the Parson of the Church was aware that the Mass was being bestowed upon Mussolini.

A short while after the Mass began, about 40 young men entered the Church and, after the Elevation of the Host they struck up an apparently religious hymn, which however was conflicting with the tune the armonium was playing. At the end the known words of the hymn "La Fregghiera del Legionario" were distinctly heard and exactly the following words: "God save the Italy,.... the Duce's Italy" (Salve o Signore questa Italia,....l'Italia del Duce).

After that the young men left the Church and walked towards Piazza Colonna and the Mass went on without incidents. But believers in the Church whispered their disappointment.

At 12,30 hrs. the usual Mass started in S. Ignazio Church, at the presence of about 300 or 400 persons. Such Mass, as later the Parson stated, was bestowed upon a deceased man. Said Parson said that every month, on the 28th, a Mass is bestowed upon a deceased man in his Church, and it was booked by a foreign lady, who is a widow and is living at Parioli Quarter jointly with his graduated son, who is living out of Rome. This lady, whom the Parson knows, for about two years has been bestowing Masses first on behalf of her late husband and after in memory of an unknown deceased "according to one's mind".

A short while after Mass began, about 40 young men, possibly the same who had been at S. Carlo al Corso Church, entered the Church and after the Elevation of the Host struck up the "Preghiera del Legionario".

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A short while after Mass began, about 40 young men, possibly the same who had been at S. Carlo al Corso Church, entered the Church and after the Elevation of the Host struck up the "Preghiera del Legionario".

Previously, that is before the beginning of the Mass, some young men had been posted at the entrance of the Church, and before the Mass was over, they got away together with their partners who had sanged in the Church.

A father of the Church ran after them to know the reason of their action and one of them answered that he was satisfied and pleased and everything was all right.

On 29 April 1946 from 08,30 hrs. to 09,30 hrs. a solemn funeral ceremony was held on memory of dead fascists in Santi Sette Fondatori Church at Via Benevento. About 300 or 400 persons attended it. After the Elevation of the Host about one hundred young men struck up the hymn of "Legionario". At the end of

- 2 -

the ceremony a Red-Cross girl kissed the catafalque and saluted after the fascist fashion; also the other attending young men saluted after the fascist fashion and then got away by small groups.

The 2nd Deputy Parson stated that about two months ago three unknown young men visited him. They were 20 or 22 years old and asked him to celebrate a solemn funeral ceremony on 28th April on memory of their companions who were dead in North-Italy. The Priest answered that it was not possible to do this ceremony on 28th April, as it was a holyday, and therefore said young men fixed the ceremony for april 29th at 08,30 hrs.

On that day a/m Deputy Parson, as he had learned from the newspaper about the funeral ceremonies held in S. Ignazio and S. Carlo al Corso Churches, recommended the young men not to indolge in political demonstrations during the ceremony. But a/m young-men attached no importance to his recommendation and started singing the fascist hymn after the elevation of the Host.

The same Deputy Parson stated that about a month ago a very fine-looking lady, back-dressed, unknown to him asked him to bestow all the Masses scheduled for april 28th upon Benito Mussolini. The Priest, as he had nothing against it, assured her he would comply and cashed the fees from her. On 29 April 46 at 08,00 hrs. another Mass on memory of Mussolini was held in S. Ippolito Church at Via delle Province. It was booked on 26/3/46 by a young lady who wanted it on memory of Mussolini, but the Friar who cashed the fee, advised her to use the general words: "Dead men in North-Italy".

This Office as soon as was informed of a/m facts, directed enquiries to trace the persons who had attended a/m ceremonies since it was very difficult to identify the bookers owing to the insufficient informations supplied by the Priests who officiated the Masses.

Also the proper P.S. Stations made investigations and on 30/4/46 P.S. Travi Station informed this Office that two university students had been identified among the persons who sang the fascist hymn in S. Ignazio Church. They are Dauria Giorgio, father's name Fernando, mother's name Ravaloli Dina born in Rome on 28/2/26, living at Via Pietro Cosse n.13 and Guerra Luciano, father's name Cesare, mother's name Ponti Elena, born in Rome on 18/11/1926 living at n.41 Via della Croce.

Meantime, still on 29th April 1946, as this Office was starting the investigations, one Bianchi Sante, father's name Angelo, was identified in Venice on 27/8/1984.

26th April, as it was a holy day, and the ceremony was fixed for April 29th at 08.30 hrs.

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Meantime, still on 29th April 1946, as this Office was starting the investigations, one Bianchi Sante, father's name Angelo, mother's name Bellardoni Maria; born in Venice on 27/8/1924 stage actor living at n.26 Via dei Crociferi had two young ladies arrested in Via delle Pilotte as they were carrying printed sheets bearing the fascist ensigns.

The two girls who were accompanied by another girl and two youngsters started running away but were overtaken and brought to Magna Napoli P.S. Station and identified as:

- 1 - Vannelli Chiarina, father's name Raffaele, mother's name Natarrese Carlotta, born in Porto Ferrato on 8/12/1916 and living at n.21 Via Appia, College student.
- 2 - Panti Lilliana, father's name Gavino, mother's name Sciarò Benedetta born in Rome on 9/8/1922 living at n.32 Via Torre

.../...

- 3 -

Vecchia, university student.

Vannelli was interrogated in a/m Station and stated that at about 10,00 hrs. of the same day she had met Fanti Lilianna at Via 4 Novembre who was accompanied by a green dressed lady whom she didn't know. Said lady had showed her the fascist newspaper that she put in her purse owing to the confusion caused by the intervention of summoned P.S. agent. Stated she couldn't supply any further information relating the source of the newspapers and the lady who had them.

Fanti Lilianna was interrogated and stated only that the lady, whom she accompanied, is called Mary and was attending Geography Course in the University, and no further informations Fanti could or wanted supply about the boys she was with.

Said young ladies were accompanied to this Office and after being interrogated many times, at last they made up their mind and gave further informations.

Vannelli stated she had attended the Mass at S. Sette Fondatori and that at the end of the Ceremony she had got six or seven copies of a mimeographed fascist newspapers. She had put the newspapers in her handbag and later she had met Fanti and the other girls, whose name she knew to be Mara, accompanied by two or three boys at Via 4 Novembre. Mara asked her whether she knew of the newspapers issued and she had replied she did. Then they took the newspapers out to compare them causing thus their being arrested by P.S. agents.

Vannelli stated also she learned a Mass would be held in S. Sette Fondatori Church by a phone-call from acquaintances of hers, whom she refused to name. In this Office then she admitted she was informed about the ceremonies, not by phone but by Mezzabotta Giorgio, father's name Aldo, mother's name Magisbrelli Ada, born in Alatri on 7/7/1918, but it was not possible to find him.

In the same report Vannelli admitted that Fanti also attended the Mass held in the Santi Sette Fondatori Church.

It was necessary now to identify the third girl who was accompanying Fanti and Vannelli, but on this point it was not possible to obtain further informations. She was however identified as Maggiore Maria father's name Giuseppe, mother's name Malfè Emma, born in Leone on 27/10/1920, school teacher, living at n.43 Via Satrico. This latter was stopped and accompanied to this Office where she stated she had attended on April 29th the Mass at S. Sette Fondatori Church with Vannelli and Fanti and the one in

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As to the fascist newspapers she stated that, thinking they were not sufficient she had appointed Vannelli, whom she happened to meet in Via 4 Novembre with securing others. While Vannelli was handing over the newspapers the Police intervened.

Fanti at last admitted she had a hand in the celebration of the Church services at S. Ignazio's. No one of them would give any particular as to the youngmen's identity. One sister of Maggiore's, Nicolina, father's name Giuseppe, mother's name Malfè Emma, born in Ienne (Rome) on 2/10/1910, school teacher,

- 4 -

living at n.43 Via Satrico stated that she had learned from her sister Maria that a Church service for the dead fascist would be held at S. Ignazio's. She said she accompanied her sister only because she feared that any incident might occur but later she openly admitted that on learning that another service of that kind would be held the following day in the Church of S. Sette Fondatori, she had decided to attend it with her sister.

Another attendant to the service held at S. Ignazio's was one Cerreto Ida, father's name Michelangelo, mother's name Crestilde Cerreta born in Rome on 19/9/1921 living at n.3 Via Premuda. She could not deny her presence in the church but she claims she was there as an usual believer and did not join the fascist hymns.

Her statement however sounds unconvincing mostly because she lives far away from the outskirts and therefore we scarcely can believe that she happened to be there by chance; furthermore she has been confidentially pointed out as a faithful fascist.

The College students also D'Auria Giorgio and Guerra Luciano supplied more or less the same explanations, although D'Auria stated that he learned by chance about the Service for Mussolini outside the Church and decided to attend.

Also one D'Andrea Achille father's name Rosario mother's name D'Aloisio Maria born in Rome on 27/2/1927 employed the Bank of Rome living at n.33 Via dell'Umiltà was pointed out as one of the attendants to the service but he decidedly rejected such allegation.

Other attendants to the service in the Church of Sette Fondatori were identified as Montanari Maria born in Ferrara on 24/8/1878 living at n.23 Via Antonio Galloni and her son Pontanelli Luigi father's name Natalino born in Ferrara on 19/12/1905, former manager of the newspaper "Lavoro Fascista". Montanari admitted her participation to the service, her listening to the choir and her kissing the edge of the flag over the coffin, but she added that a/m church is her Parish and she wants it to attend the services. She denied having attended the service in question and so did her son.

Following persons also were alleged to have attended the service at S. Ippolito's :

1) Trodoli Pietro father's name Antonio mother's name Pasquali Anna born in Leonessa on 5/8/1910, living at n.52 Via Ippocra-

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- 1) Trodoli Pietro father's name Antonio mother's name Pasquali Anna born in Leonessa on 5/8/1910, living at n.52 Via Ipocrate, who has a butchershop at Viale delle Provincie;
- 2) Gairo Renata, father's name Creste, mother's name Barsotti Maddalena born in Rome on 16/4/1907, who is the mistress of Trodoli;
- 3) Padrone Antonio father's name Giacomo mother's name ~~Stamato~~ Acriana, born in Bari on 15/6/1884, living at n.39 Via Stamato, a government pensioned of;
- 4) Massei Emilio father's name Egisto and mother's name Colombina Armida, born in Piombino (Leghorn) on 25/10/1906, living at n.7 Via Berengario;
- 5) Masucci Giuseppe father's name Mariano mother's name Pienillo Marianna, born in S. Lucia di Serino (Avellino) on 2/5/1890, living at n.8 Via della Lega Lombarda.

All said persons denied their participation at the said service, save Massei (see enclos. 13) who only admitted it for his mother and sister, Maria Luisa (see enclos. n. 18). Such service, accordingly the Massei's statement, would have been ordered by his sister in occasion of the second monthly recurrence of her father's death and on memory of her cousin Di Pasquale Renato, former serviceman in the fascist army and dead in North-Italy.

Whilst however no evidence could be obtained as to Masucci, Padrone was recognized as a "Squadrista" and a search in the house of Teodoro-Gaino led to the discovery of four copies of the newspaper "Onore" issued by clandestine fascism in Rome on 19/1/1945, a printed poster headed "First national meeting of the fascist republican party", a poster headed "young men of Italy", and a copy of the newspaper "Unità" issued on 8/5/1945 on which the words "murderers" and "our moral and material collapse" had been written atop and at the foot of Roosevelt's and Stalin's pictures.

Teodoli stated that above mentioned posters were gathered and worked out by his lover Gaino Renato, who confirmed so much, adding she could find the newspaper in the mail-box.

Padrone and Masucci, as stated above, denied their attendance to the service. The former is an ex-squadrista, the latter joined the fascist party in 1922.

Maggiore Maria, volunteered in the war service-female organization of the Republican "X Flottiglia Mas".

For what above there is no doubt on Vannelli, Fanti, Maggiore Maria, Maggiore Nicolina, Cerreto, Gaino and Padrone having willingly assisted manifestations of a fascist nature and on the first three and Gaino having intended to carry out antidemocratic propaganda by spreading or holding booklets, posters and leaflets of the new fascist clandestine organization. All of them therefore were taken under arrest to the local jail at the disposal of the Court for further processing.

D'Auria, Guerra, Montanari, Teodoli, Masucci and Massei were denounced on bail since no sound evidence could be obtained against them.

for THE QUESTORE
Sgn. Bottino

3972

Mod. special. T. 57

REGIA QUESTURA DI ROMA

Copy

GABINETTO

Grine di servizio N.

Pagina N.

Romeo n. 00/524
Rome, li 22 Maggio 1946

N. 015015. 544. 3.3.

- Sigs. Dirigenti Divisioni- Uffici-Squadre: M. Questura
- Sis. Vice Questore
- s.p.o. Ministero dell'Interno Direzione Generale della P.S. Prefettura di Roma
- Sis. Col. R.T. Millhouse - S. Vitale

ROMA

Nello spazio di pochi mesi si devono deplorare due casi di persone, che arrestate e trattenute in ufficio, senza o con insufficiente custodia, si suicidano buttandosi dalle finestre dei piani superiori.

E' mio preciso intendimento che casi del genere non si verificino mai più e pertanto prego le S.E.Li. di disporre, sotto la loro personale responsabilità, che tutte le persone fermate od arrestate devono essere subito ammanettate e trattenute normalmente nelle camere di sicurezza il meno possibile, per il tempo cioè strettamente necessario nei vari uffici e comunque sempre sotto la strettissima sorveglianza di due guardie almeno in modo che gli arrestati non possono commettere alcun atto in consulto sia verso la propria persona che verso i funzionari ed Agenti.

Ho fatto da vari giorni apportare al piano terreno, indipendente mente dalle camere di sicurezza del cortile due stanze appositamente per i fermati con attigua una stanza per interrogatori, tutte munite di inferiate, appunto per evitare spiacevoli incidenti come quello odierno così deprecata abitudine di movimenti continui di detenuti per le scale della questura sino al 4° piano in mezzo al pubblico.

In tale camera doveva essere postato il fermato se fossaro stati eseguite le mie disposizioni cui intendevo che gli interrogatori dei detenuti avvenissero sempre in tale apposita camera, chiudendo ogni ulteriore traffico attraverso i locali della Questura.

IL QUESTORE
Ciro Verdiani

CABINETTO

Ordine di servizio N.

Partito N.

Boneo n. 00/524
Roma, 11 22 Maggio 1945

M. DI LEO
M. DI LEO
M. DI LEO

Sig. Dirigenti Divisioni - Uffici - Squadre R. Carabinieri
 Sig. Vice Questore
 Ministero dell'Interno Direzione Generale della P.S.
 Prefettura di Roma
 Sig. Col. R.T. Millhouse - S. Vitale

R O M A

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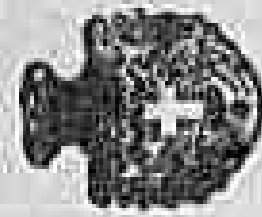
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IL QUESTORE
Ciro Verdiani

377



REGIA QUESTURA DI ROMA

Squadra Mobile

n°500-Squadra Mobile-

Roma, 22 Maggio 1946-

OGGETTO: DE GIOVANNI Pietro di Giuseppe e di Gendino Teresa, nato a S. Maria Capua Vetere (Caserta) il 4/1/1921, qui abitante in piazza Martiri di Belfiore n°4-- tentate suicidio --.

AL CAPO DELLA POLIZIA

AL PREFETTO

AL COLONNELLO MILLHOUSE

R O M A

Questa sera alle ore 19, il Brigadiere di P.S. Sciovento Tommaso, in servizio presso la Squadra Mobile, veniva informato, in via S. Maria in Via, dal Dott. Nigro Enzo fu Goffredo, qui dimigliato in via Carlo de Nino n°31, che nell'interno degli uffici della T.M.T.I. trovavasi un individuo che egli aveva conosciuto nel passato come sergente dell'Esercito ma che in quel momento indossava la divisa di capitano del Genio.

Le sconosciuto, fermato ed accompagnato negli uffici della Squadra Mobile, esibiva una tessera postale recante il 210297 rilasciata a Trapani il 28 luglio 1944 ed una tessera del R° Esercito Italiano n°233/R.S., entrambe al nome di De Giovanni Pietro di Giuseppe e di Gendino Teresa, nato a S. Maria Capua Vetere il 4 gennaio 1921. Egli dichiarava di non rivestire il grado di ufficiale ma di essere un sergente ed esibiva poi un biglietto da visita con la scritta "Pietro De Giovanni Montalbano dei Principi di S. Severino in Rotte".

Il fermato pertanto veniva trattenuto momentaneamente nella stanza n°32 del 4° piano dei locali della Questura ed affidato alla custodia della Guardia di P.S. Vitillo Liberato di Giuseppe, nato il 12/1923 ed

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AL CAPO DELLA POLIZIA
AL PREFETTO
AL COLONNELLO MILLHOUSE

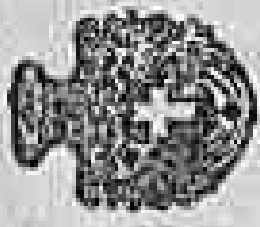
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Questa sera alle ore 19, il Brigadiere di P.S. Solovanto Tommaso, in servizio presso la Squadra Mobile, veniva informato, in via S. Maria in Via, dal Dott. Nigro Enzo fu Goffredo, qui dimigliato in via Carlo de Nino n°31, che nell'interno degli uffici della T.S.T.I. trovavasi un individuo che egli aveva conosciuto nel passato come sergente dell'Esercito ma che in quel momento indossava la divisa di capitano del Genio.

Lo sconosciuto, fermato ed accompagnato negli uffici della Squadra Mobile, esibiva una tessera postale recante il 210297 rilasciata a Trapani il 28 luglio 1944 ed una tessera del R° Esercito Italiano n°233/R.S., entrambe al nome di De Giovanni Pietro di Giuseppe e di Gandino Teresa, nato a S. Maria Capua Vetere il 4 gennaio 1921. Egli dichiarava di non rivestire il grado di ufficiale ma di essere un sergente ed esibiva poi un biglietto da visita con la scritta "Pietro De Giovanni Montalbano dei Principi di S. Severino in Rota".

Il fermato pertanto veniva trattenuto momentaneamente nella stanza n°32 del 4° piano dei locali della Questura ed affidato alla custodia della Guardia di P.S. Vitillo Liberato di Giuseppe, nato il 12/1923 ad Ariano Irpino, effettivo alla Stazione Mobile, in attesa che l'interrogatorio fosse ripreso non appena fossero state effettuate le ricerche dei precedenti in archivio. Poco dopo però il suo ingresso nella stanza anzidetta, il sedicente De Giovanni, dopo essersi seduto un attimo in una sedia, epiccava un salto ed aperta violentemente la finestra, si lanciava nel vuoto, cadendo su di una terrazza sottostante. Egli è sta-

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REGIA QUESTURA DI ROMA

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te d'urgenza ricevuto in osservazione all'ospedale di S. Giacomo per
frattura esposta all'omero sinistro terzo inferiore, contusioni addo-
minale e stato di shock.

Sono in corso rigorosi accertamenti per la identificazione del
De Giovanni e perchè si possa accertare la sua vera attività e le cause
che lo abbiano determinato al suicidio.

Si fa riserva di ulteriori segnalazioni.-

IL QUESTORE
(Ciro Verdiani)

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te d'urgenza ricoverato in osservazione all'ospedale di S. Giacomo per
frattura esposta all'omero sinistro terzo inferiore, contusioni addo-
minale e stato di shock.

Sono in corso rigorosi accertamenti per la identificazione del
De Giovanni e perchè si possa accertare la sua vera attività e le cause
che lo abbiano determinato al suicidio.

Si fa riserva di ulteriori segnalazioni.-

IL QUESTORE
(Ciro Verdiani)



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